

1 **SECTION 109.** 7.30 (2) (b) of the statutes, as affected by 2005 Wisconsin Act 27,
2 is amended to read:

3 7.30 (2) (b) When a vacancy occurs in an office under this section, the vacancy
4 shall be filled by appointment of the municipal clerk. The Unless the vacancy occurs
5 in the position of an inspector appointed under sub. (1) (b), the vacancy shall be filled
6 from the remaining names on the lists submitted under sub. (4) or from additional
7 names submitted by the chairperson of the county party committee of the
8 appropriate party under sub. (4) whenever names are submitted under sub. (4) (d).
9 If the vacancy is due to candidacy, sickness or any other temporary cause, the
10 appointment shall be a temporary appointment and effective only for the election at
11 which the temporary vacancy occurs. that applied to original appointees PLAIN
12 persons who fill vacancies. except that a vacancy PLAIN
13 of time limitations by a person who resides in
14 municipality insert Q

15 **SECTION 110.** 7.30 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

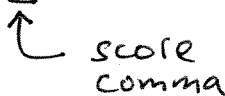
16 7.30 (2) (c) The governing body of any municipality may require all persons
17 serving as election officials to prove their ability to read and write English and to
18 have a general knowledge of the election laws. Examinations may be given to prove
19 the qualifications can be met. The municipal clerk shall ensure that all training
20 meets the training requirements prescribed in rules promulgated by the board under
21 ss. 7.31 and 7.315.

22 **SECTION 111.** 7.30 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 7.30 (4) (a) Except in cities where there is a board of election commissioners,
24 the mayor, president or board chairperson of each municipality shall nominate to the
25 governing body no later than their last regular meeting in December of each

1 ~~even-numbered~~ odd-numbered year the necessary election officials for each polling
2 place. If no regular meeting is scheduled, the mayor, president or chairperson shall
3 call a special meeting for the purpose of considering nominations no later than
4 December 31.

5 **SECTION 112.** 7.30 (4) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 7.30 (4) (b) (intro.) The 2 dominant parties, under sub. (2), are each responsible
7 for submitting a list of names from which the all appointees to inspector positions,
8 other than appointees to inspector positions authorized under sub. (1) (b), shall be
9 chosen. 

10 **SECTION 113.** 7.30 (4) (b) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

11 7.30 (4) (b) 1. In cities where there is a board of election commissioners, the
12 aldermanic district committeemen or committeewomen under s. 8.17 of each of the
13 2 dominant recognized political parties shall submit a certified list no later than
14 November 30 of each ~~even-numbered~~ odd-numbered year containing the names of
15 at least as many nominees as there are inspectors from that party for each of the
16 voting wards in the aldermanic district. The chairperson may designate any
17 individual whose name is submitted as a first choice nominee. The board of election
18 commissioners shall appoint, no later than December 31 of ~~even-numbered~~
19 odd-numbered years, at least 5 inspectors for each ward. The board of election
20 commissioners shall appoint all first choice nominees for so long as positions are
21 available, unless nonappointment is authorized under par. (e), and shall appoint
22 other individuals in its discretion. The board of election commissioners may
23 designate such alternates as it deems advisable.

24 **SECTION 114.** 7.30 (4) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

1 7.30 (4) (c) ~~For~~ Except with respect to inspectors who are appointed under sub.
2 (1) (b), for so long as nominees are made available by the political parties under this
3 section, appointments may be made only from the lists of submitted nominees. If the
4 lists are not submitted by November 30 of the year in which appointments are to be
5 made, the board of election commissioners shall appoint, or the mayor, president or
6 chairperson of a municipality shall nominate qualified persons whose names have
7 not been submitted. If an insufficient number of nominees appears on the lists as
8 of November 30, the board of election commissioners shall similarly appoint, or the
9 mayor, president or chairperson shall similarly nominate sufficient individuals to fill
10 the remaining vacancies. In addition, the mayor, president, or board chairperson of
11 the municipality shall similarly nominate qualified persons to serve in the inspector
12 positions authorized under sub. (1) (b). Any appointment which is made due to the
13 lack of availability of names submitted under par. (b) may be made without regard
14 to party affiliation.

15 **SECTION 115.** 7.30 (6) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 7.30 (6) (a) ~~The~~ Except as provided in par. (am), the appointed election officials
17 shall hold office for 2 years and until their successors are appointed and qualified.
18 They shall serve at every election held in their ward during their term of office.

19 **SECTION 116.** 7.30 (6) (am) of the statutes is created to read:

20 7.30 (6) (am) A pupil appointed as an inspector under sub. (2) (am) shall serve
21 as an inspector only for the election for which he or she is appointed. Nothing in this
22 paragraph shall be construed to limit the number of times a pupil may be appointed
23 as an inspector.

24 **SECTION 117.** 7.30 (6) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

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1 7.30 (6) (c) If any election official appointed under this section lacks the
2 qualifications set forth in this section, fails to attend training sessions required
3 under s. 7.15 (1) (e) unless excused therefrom, is guilty of neglecting his or her official
4 duties or commits official misconduct, the municipal clerk or board of election
5 commissioners shall summarily remove the official from office and the vacancy shall
6 be filled under sub. (2) (b).

7 **SECTION 118.** 7.315 of the statutes is created to read:

8 **7.315 Training of other election officials.** (1) (a) The board shall, by rule,
9 prescribe the contents of the training that municipal clerks must provide to
10 inspectors, other than chief inspectors, to special voting deputies appointed under
11 s. 6.875⁵ and to special registration deputies appointed under ss. 6.26 and 6.55 (6).

12 (b) 1. Except as provided in subd. 2., no individual may serve as an inspector
13 other than a chief inspector, as a special voting deputy under s. 6.875⁵ or as a special
14 registration deputy under s. 6.26 or 6.55 (6) at any election unless the individual has
15 completed training for that election provided by the municipal clerk pursuant to
16 rules promulgated under par. (a).

17 2. Only when an individual who has received training under subd. 1. is
18 unavailable to perform his or her election duties due to sickness, injury, or other
19 unforeseen occurrence may an individual who has not received training under subd.
20 1. be appointed to serve as an inspector, other than chief inspector, or a special voting
21 deputy or special registration deputy. The appointment of an individual to serve
22 under this subdivision shall be for a specific election and no individual may be
23 appointed under this subdivision more than one time in a two-year period. ²

24 (2) The board shall, by rule, prescribe requirements for, and the content of,
25 training required of municipal clerks under s. 7.15 (1m). The board may provide such

1 training directly or arrange for such training to be provided by other organizations.

2 The rules may not require training more than once every two years. The rules shall
3 provide a method for notifying the relevant municipal governing body if a municipal
4 clerk fails to attend required training.

5 (3) The board may produce and periodically reissue as necessary a video
6 program for the purpose of training election officials, including special voting
7 deputies and special registration deputies. The board shall make any such program
8 available for viewing electronically through an Internet-based system.

9 **SECTION 119.** 7.32 of the statutes is amended to read:

10 **7.32 Change of election official numbers.** Notwithstanding s. 7.30 (1) (a),
11 the governing body or board of election commissioners of any municipality may by
12 resolution reduce the number of election officials and modify or rescind any similar
13 previous action. No such action may reduce the number of officials at a polling place
14 to less than 3.

15 **SECTION 120.** 7.33 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 7.33 (3) Every employer shall grant to each employee who is appointed to serve
17 as an election official under s. 7.30 a leave of absence for the entire 24-hour period
18 of each election day in which the official serves in his or her official capacity. An
19 employee who serves as an election official shall provide his or her employer with at
20 least 7 days' notice of application for a leave. The municipal clerk shall verify
21 appointments upon request of any employer.

22 **SECTION 121.** 7.33 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 7.33 (4) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, each local
24 governmental unit, as defined in s. 16.97 (7), may, and each state agency shall, upon
25 proper application under sub. (3), permit each of its employees to serve as an election

1 official under s. 7.30 without loss of fringe benefits or seniority privileges earned for
2 scheduled working hours during the period specified in sub. (3), without loss of pay
3 for scheduled working hours during the period specified in sub. (3) except as provided
4 in sub. (5), and without any other penalty. For employees who are included in a
5 collective bargaining unit for which a representative is recognized or certified under
6 subch. V of ch. 111, this subsection shall apply unless otherwise provided in a
7 collective bargaining agreement.

8 **SECTION 122.** 7.33 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 7.33 (6) Each employer other than a state agency shall, upon proper application
10 under sub. (3), permit each of its employees to serve as an election official under s.
11 7.30 without loss of fringe benefits or seniority privileges earned for scheduled
12 working hours during the period specified in sub. (3), and shall not impose any other
13 penalty upon an employee who serves as an election official, except the employer
14 need not pay wages to an employee for time not worked while the employee is serving
15 as an election official.

16 **SECTION 123.** 7.37 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 7.37 (2) PRESERVE ORDER. The inspectors shall possess full authority to
18 maintain order and to enforce obedience to their lawful commands during the
19 election and the canvass of the votes. They shall permit only one person in a voting
20 booth at a time and shall prevent any person from taking notice of how another
21 person has voted, except when assistance is given under s. 6.82. They shall enforce
22 s. 5.35 (5) and prevent electioneering and distribution of election-related material
23 from taking place in violation of s. ss. 12.03 and 12.035. If any person refuses to obey
24 the lawful commands of an inspector, or is disorderly in the presence or hearing of
25 the inspectors, interrupts or disturbs the proceedings, they may order any law

1 enforcement officer to remove the person from the voting area or to take the person
2 into custody.

3 **SECTION 124.** 7.37 (13) of the statutes is created to read:

4 7.37 (13) CLOSING OF POLLS. At the time the polls officially close, an inspector,
5 including an inspector appointed under s. 7.30 (1) (b), shall position himself or herself
6 at the end of the line of individuals waiting to vote, if any. Only individuals in line
7 ahead of the inspector shall be permitted to vote under s. 6.78 (4).

8 **SECTION 125.** 7.41 of the statutes is amended to read:

9 **7.41 Public's right to access.** (1) Any member of the public may be present
10 at any polling place, in the office of any municipal clerk whose office is located in a
11 public building on any day that absentee ballots may be cast in that office, or at an
12 alternate site under s. 6.855, on any day that absentee ballots may be cast at that site
13 for the purpose of observation of an election and the absentee ballot voting process,
14 except a candidate whose name appears on the ballot at the polling place or on an
15 absentee ballot to be cast at the clerk's office or alternate site at that election. The
16 chief inspector or municipal clerk may reasonably limit the number of persons
17 representing the same organization who are permitted to observe an election under
18 this subsection at the same time.

19 (2) The chief inspector or municipal clerk may restrict the location of any
20 individual exercising the right under sub. (1) to certain areas within a polling place,
21 the clerk's office or alternate site under s. 6.855. The chief inspector or municipal
22 clerk shall clearly designate such an area as an observation area. Designated
23 observation areas shall be so positioned to permit any authorized individual to
24 readily observe all public aspects of the voting process.

1 (3) The chief inspector or municipal clerk may order the removal of any
2 individual exercising the right under sub. (1) if that individual commits an overt act
3 which:

4 (a) Disrupts the operation of the polling place, clerk's office, or alternate site
5 under s. 6.855; or

6 (b) Violates s. 12.03 (2) or 12.035.

7 (4) No individual exercising the right under sub. (1) may view the confidential
8 portion of a registration list maintained under s. 6.36 (4) or a poll list maintained
9 under s. 6.79 (6). However, the inspectors or municipal clerk shall disclose to such
10 an individual, upon request, the existence of such a list, the number of electors whose
11 names appear on the list, and the number of those electors who have voted at any
12 point in the proceedings. No such individual may view the certificate of an absent
13 elector who obtains a confidential listing under s. 6.47 (2).

14 **SECTION 126.** 7.41 (5) of the statutes is created to read:

15 7.41 (5) The board shall promulgate rules regarding the proper conduct of
16 individuals exercising the right under sub. (1), including the interaction of those
17 individuals with inspectors and other election officials.

18 **SECTION 127.** 7.51 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 7.51 (1) CANVASS PROCEDURE. Immediately after the polls close the inspectors
20 except any inspector appointed under s. 7.30 (1) (b) shall proceed to canvass publicly
21 all votes received at the polling place. In any municipality where an electronic voting
22 system is used, the municipal governing body or board of election commissioners may
23 provide or authorize the municipal clerk or executive director of the board of election
24 commissioners to provide for the adjournment of the canvass to one or more central
25 counting locations for specified polling places in the manner prescribed in subch. III

1 of ch. 5. No central counting location may be used to count votes at a polling place
2 where an electronic voting system is not employed. The canvass, whether conducted
3 at the polling place or at a central counting location, shall continue without
4 adjournment until the canvass is completed and the return statements are
5 statement is made or, in municipalities where absentee ballots are canvassed under
6 s. 7.52, until the canvass of all ballots cast is completed and the return statement for
7 those ballots are made. The inspectors shall not permit access to the name of any
8 elector who has obtained a confidential listing under s. 6.47 (2) during the canvass,
9 except as authorized in s. 6.47 (8).

10 **SECTION 128.** 7.51 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 7.51 (2) (c) Whenever the number of ballots exceeds the number of voting
12 electors as indicated on the poll list, the inspectors shall place all ballots face up to
13 check for blank ballots. In this paragraph, “blank ballot” means a ballot on which
14 no votes are cast for any office or question. The inspectors shall mark, lay aside and
15 preserve any blank ballots. If Except in municipalities where absentee ballots are
16 canvassed under s. 7.52, if the number of ballots still exceeds the number of voting
17 electors, the inspectors shall place all ballots face down and proceed to check for the
18 initials. The inspectors shall mark, lay aside and preserve any ballot not bearing the
19 initials of 2 inspectors or any absentee ballot not bearing the initials of the municipal
20 clerk. During the count the inspectors shall count those ballots cast by challenged
21 electors the same as the other ballots.

22 **SECTION 129.** 7.51 (2) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 7.51 (2) (e) If, Except in municipalities where absentee ballots are canvassed
24 under s. 7.52, if after any ballots have been laid aside, the number of ballots still
25 exceeds the total number of electors recorded on the poll list, the inspectors shall

1 separate the absentee ballots from the other ballots. If there is an excess number of
2 absentee ballots, the inspectors shall place the absentee ballots in the ballot box and
3 one of the inspectors shall publicly and without examination draw therefrom by
4 chance the number of ballots equal to the excess number of absentee ballots. If there
5 is an excess number of ~~other~~ nonabsentee ballots, the inspectors shall place those
6 ballots in the ballot box and one of the inspectors shall publicly and without
7 examination draw therefrom by chance the number of ballots equal to the excess
8 number of those ballots. All ballots so removed may not be counted but shall be
9 specially marked as having been removed by the inspectors on original canvass due
10 to an excess number of ballots, set aside and preserved. When the number of ballots
11 and total shown on the poll list agree, the inspectors shall return all ballots to be
12 counted to the ballot box and shall turn the ballot box in such manner as to
13 thoroughly mix the ballots. The inspectors shall then open, count and record the
14 number of votes. When the ballots are counted, the inspectors shall separate them
15 into piles for ballots similarly voted. Objections may be made to placement of ballots
16 in the piles at the time the separation is made.

17 **SECTION 130.** 7.51 (3) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 7.51 (3) (d) All Except in municipalities where absentee ballots are canvassed
19 under s. 7.52, all absentee certificate envelopes which have been opened shall be
20 returned by the inspectors to the municipal clerk in a securely sealed carrier
21 envelope which is clearly marked “used absentee certificate envelopes”. The
22 envelopes shall be signed by the chief inspector and 2 other inspectors. Except when
23 the ballots are used in a municipal or school district election only, the municipal clerk
24 shall transmit the used envelopes to the county clerk.

25 **SECTION 131.** 7.51 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

1 7.51 (4) (a) The tally sheets shall state the total number of votes cast for each
2 office and for each individual receiving votes for that office, whether or not the
3 individual's name appears on the ballot, and shall state the vote for and against each
4 proposition voted on. Upon completion of the tally sheets, the inspectors shall
5 immediately complete the inspectors' statements in duplicate statement. The
6 inspectors shall state the excess, if any, by which the number of ballots exceeds the
7 number of electors voting as shown by the poll list and shall state the number of the
8 last elector as shown by the poll lists. At least 3 inspectors, including the chief
9 inspector and, unless election officials are appointed under s. 7.30 (4) (c) without
10 regard to party affiliation, at least one inspector representing each political party,
11 but not including any inspector appointed under s. 7.30 (1) (b), shall then certify to
12 the correctness of the ~~statements~~ statement and tally sheets and sign their names.
13 All other election officials assisting with the tally shall also certify to the correctness
14 of the tally sheets. When the tally is complete, the inspectors shall publicly announce
15 the results from the ~~statements~~ statement.

16 **SECTION 132.** 7.51 (5) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 7.51 (5) (a) 1. The inspectors shall make full and accurate return of the votes
18 cast for each candidate and proposition on tally sheet forms provided by the
19 municipal clerk for that purpose. Each tally sheet shall record the returns for each
20 office or referendum by ward, unless combined returns are authorized in accordance
21 with s. 5.15 (6) (b) in which case the tally sheet shall record the returns for each group
22 of combined wards.

23 2. After recording the votes, the inspectors shall seal in a carrier envelope
24 outside the ballot bag or container ~~one inspectors' statement under sub. (4) (a)~~, one

1 tally sheet, and one poll list for delivery to the county clerk, unless the election relates
2 only to municipal or school district offices or referenda. (5)

3 3. The inspectors shall also ~~similarly~~ ^{similarly} seal ~~one the~~ inspectors' statement, inside
4 a separate carrier envelope and shall seal ~~one tally sheet, and one poll list for delivery~~
5 to the municipal clerk. For school district elections, except in 1st class cities, the
6 inspectors shall similarly seal one inspectors' statement, one tally sheet, and one poll
7 list for delivery to the school district clerk.

8 4. The inspectors shall immediately deliver all ballots, statements, tally sheets,
9 lists, and envelopes to the municipal clerk.

10 SECTION 133. 7.51 (5) (a) 5. of the statutes is created to read:

11 7.51 (5) (a) 5. Upon receipt of the materials under subd. 4., the municipal clerk
12 shall make sufficient copies of the inspectors' statement under sub. (4) (a) and seal
13 one copy of the statement inside a carrier envelope together with the envelope
14 containing any materials required to be delivered to the county clerk or the school
15 district clerk. The municipal clerk shall retain the original inspectors' statement.

16 SECTION 134. 7.51 (5) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 7.51 (5) (b) The municipal clerk shall ~~arrange for delivery of~~ deliver all ballots,
18 statements, tally sheets, lists, and envelopes relating to a school district election to
19 the school district clerk by 4 p.m. on the day following each such election. The
20 municipal clerk shall deliver the ballots, statements, tally sheets, lists, and
21 envelopes for his or her municipality relating to any county, technical college district,
22 state, or national election to the county clerk by ~~2 4~~ 4 p.m. on the day following each
23 such election or, in municipalities where absentee ballots are canvassed under s.
24 7.52, by 4. p.m. on the 2nd day following each such election. The person delivering
25 the returns shall be paid out of the municipal treasury. Each clerk shall retain

1 ballots, statements, tally sheets, or envelopes received by the clerk until destruction
2 is authorized under s. 7.23 (1).

3 **SECTION 135.** 7.52 of the statutes is created to read:

4 **7.52 Canvassing of absentee ballots.** (1) The governing body of any
5 municipality may provide by ordinance that, in lieu of canvassing absentee ballots
6 at polling places under s. 6.88, the municipal board of absentee ballot canvassers
7 designated under s. 7.53 (2m) shall canvass all absentee ballots at all elections held
8 in the municipality. Thereafter, at every election, the board of absentee ballot
9 canvassers shall, any time after the opening of the polls and before 10 p.m. on election
10 day, publicly convene to count the absentee ballots for the municipality. The
11 municipal clerk shall give at least 48 hours' notice of any meeting under this
12 subsection. Any member of the public has the same right of access to a meeting of
13 the municipal absentee ballot board of canvassers under this subsection that the
14 individual would have under s. 7.41 to observe the proceedings at a polling place. The
15 board of absentee ballot canvassers may order the removal of any individual
16 exercising the right to observe the proceedings if the individual disrupts the meeting.

17 (2) In counting the absentee ballots, the board of absentee ballot canvassers
18 shall use 2 duplicate copies of a single poll list for the entire municipality prepared
19 in accordance with s. 6.36 (2). Upon accepting each absentee ballot, the board of
20 absentee ballot canvassers shall enter a poll list number on the poll list next to the
21 name of the elector who voted the ballot, beginning with the number one. If the
22 elector's name does not appear on the poll list, the board of absentee ballot
23 canvassers shall enter the number on a separate list maintained under this
24 subsection.

1 (3) (a) The board of absentee ballot canvassers shall first open the carrier
2 envelope only, and, in such a manner that a member of the public, if he or she desired,
3 could hear, announce the name of the absent elector or the identification serial
4 number of the absent elector if the elector has a confidential listing under s. 6.47 (2).
5 When the board of absentee ballot canvassers finds that the certification has been
6 properly executed, the applicant is a qualified elector of the ward or election district,
7 and the applicant has not voted in the election, the board of absentee ballot
8 canvassers shall enter an indication on the poll list next to the applicant's name
9 indicating an absentee ballot is cast by the elector. The board of absentee ballot
10 canvassers shall then open the envelope containing the ballot in a manner so as not
11 to deface or destroy the certification thereon. The board of absentee ballot
12 canvassers shall take out the ballot without unfolding it or permitting it to be
13 unfolded or examined. Unless the ballot is cast under s. 6.95, the board of absentee
14 ballot canvassers shall verify that the ballot has been endorsed by the issuing clerk.

15 If the poll list indicates that proof of residence is required and no proof of residence
16 is enclosed or the name or address on the document that is provided is not the same
17 as the name and address shown on the poll list, the board of absentee ballot
18 canvassers shall proceed as provided under s. 6.97 (2). The board of absentee ballot

19 canvassers shall mark the poll list number of each elector who casts an absentee
20 ballot on the back of the elector's ballot. The board of absentee ballot canvassers shall
21 then deposit the ballot into the proper ballot box and enter the absent elector's name
22 or poll list number after his or her name on the poll list.

23 (b) When the board of absentee ballot canvassers finds that a certification is
24 insufficient, that the applicant is not a qualified elector in the ward or election
25 district, that the ballot envelope is open or has been opened and resealed, that the

1 ballot envelope contains more than one ballot of any one kind, or that the certificate
2 of an elector who received an absentee ballot by facsimile transmission or electronic
3 mail is missing, or if proof is submitted to the board of absentee ballot canvassers that
4 an elector voting an absentee ballot has since died, the board of absentee ballot
5 canvassers shall not count the ballot. Each member of the board of absentee ballot
6 canvassers shall endorse every ballot not counted on the back as “rejected (giving the
7 reason).” The board of absentee ballot canvassers shall reinsert each rejected ballot
8 into the certificate envelope in which it was delivered and enclose the certificate
9 envelopes and ballots, and securely seal the ballots and envelopes in an envelope
10 marked for rejected absentee ballots. The board of absentee ballot canvassers shall
11 endorse the envelope as “rejected ballots,” with a statement of the ward or election
12 district and date of the election, and each member of the board of absentee ballot
13 canvassers shall sign the statement. The board of absentee ballot canvassers shall
14 then return the envelope containing the ballots to the municipal clerk.

15 (4) (a) The board of absentee ballot canvassers shall then open the ballot box
16 and remove and count the number of ballots therein without examination except as
17 is necessary to ascertain that each is a single ballot. If 2 or more ballots are folded
18 together so as to appear as a single ballot, the board of absentee ballot canvassers
19 shall lay them aside until the count is completed; and if, after a comparison of the
20 count and the appearance of the ballots it appears to the board of absentee ballot
21 canvassers that the ballots folded together were voted by the same person they shall
22 not be counted but the board of absentee ballot canvassers shall mark them as to the
23 reason for removal, set them aside, and carefully preserve them. The board of
24 absentee ballot canvassers shall then proceed under par. (b).

1 (b) When during the counting of the ballots cast at an election the board of
2 absentee ballot canvassers finds that a ballot is so defective that it cannot determine
3 with reasonable certainty for whom it was cast, the board of absentee ballot
4 canvassers shall so mark the ballot and preserve it. The board of absentee ballot
5 canvassers shall not count the vote cast on the ballot for any office for which it
6 determines the ballot to be defective.

7 (c) Whenever the number of ballots exceeds the number of voting electors as
8 indicated on the poll list, the board of absentee ballot canvassers shall place all
9 ballots face up to check for blank ballots. In this paragraph, “blank ballot” means
10 a ballot on which no votes are cast for any office or question. The board of absentee
11 ballot canvassers shall mark, lay aside, and preserve any blank ballots. If the
12 number of ballots still exceeds the number of voting electors, the board of absentee
13 ballot canvassers shall place all ballots face down and proceed to check for the
14 initials. The board of absentee ballot canvassers shall mark, lay aside, and preserve
15 any ballot not bearing the initials of the municipal clerk. During the count, the board
16 of absentee ballot canvassers shall count those ballots cast by challenged electors the
17 same as the other ballots.

18 (d) The board of absentee ballot canvassers shall keep a written statement, in
19 duplicate, of the number of ballots set aside and the number of defective ballots and
20 challenged ballots. The statement shall contain a record of the reasons for setting
21 aside each ballot and the reasons why each defective or challenged ballot is defective
22 or challenged. The board of absentee ballot canvassers shall certify that the
23 statement is correct, sign it, and attach it to the tally sheets.

24 (e) If, after any ballots have been set aside, the number of ballots still exceeds
25 the total number of electors recorded on the poll list, the board of absentee ballot

1 canvassers shall place the absentee ballots in the ballot box and one of the members
2 shall publicly and without examination draw therefrom by chance the number of
3 ballots equal to the excess number of ballots. All ballots so removed shall not be
4 counted but shall be specially marked as having been removed by the board of
5 absentee ballot canvassers on original canvass due to an excess number of ballots,
6 set aside, and preserved. When the number of ballots and total shown on the poll list
7 agree, the board of absentee ballot canvassers shall return all ballots to be counted
8 to the ballot box and shall turn the ballot box in such manner as to thoroughly mix
9 the ballots. The board of absentee ballot canvassers shall then open, count, and
10 record the number of votes. When the ballots are counted, the board of absentee
11 ballot canvassers shall separate them into piles for ballots similarly voted.
12 Objections may be made to placement of ballots in the piles at the time the separation
13 is made.

14 (f) If corrected ballots under s. 5.06 (6) or 5.72 (3) are distributed under s. 7.10
15 (3), only the votes cast on the corrected ballots may be counted for any office or
16 referendum in which the original ballots differ from the corrected ballots.

17 (g) The board of absentee ballot canvassers shall place together all ballots
18 counted by it that relate to any national, state, or county office or any state, county,
19 or technical college district referendum and secure them together so they cannot be
20 untied or tampered with without breaking the seal. The secured ballots, together
21 with any ballots marked "Defective," shall then be secured by the board of absentee
22 ballot canvassers in the ballot container in such a manner that the container cannot
23 be opened without breaking the seals or locks, or destroying the container. The board
24 of absentee ballot canvassers shall place the ballots cast under s. 6.97 in a separate,
25 securely sealed carrier envelope which is clearly marked "Section 6.97 ballots." Each

1 member of the board of absentee ballot canvassers shall sign the carrier envelope.
2 The carrier envelope shall not be placed in the ballot container. The board of
3 absentee ballot canvassers shall then deliver the ballots to the municipal clerk in the
4 ballot container and carrier envelope.

5 (h) For ballots that relate only to municipal or school district offices or
6 referenda, the board of absentee ballot canvassers, in lieu of par. (a), after counting
7 the ballots shall return them to the proper ballot boxes, lock the boxes, paste paper
8 over the slots, sign their names to the paper, and deliver them and the keys therefor
9 to the municipal or school district clerk. The clerk shall retain the ballots until
10 destruction is authorized under s. 7.23.

11 (i) All absentee certificate envelopes that have been opened shall be returned
12 by the board of absentee ballot canvassers to the municipal clerk in a securely sealed
13 carrier envelope that is clearly marked “used absentee certificate envelopes.” The
14 envelopes shall be signed by each member of the board of absentee ballot canvassers.
15 Except when the ballots are used in a municipal or school district election only, the
16 municipal clerk shall transmit the used envelopes to the county clerk.

17 (5) The vote of any absent elector may be challenged for cause and the board
18 of absentee ballot canvassers shall have all the power and authority given the
19 inspectors to hear and determine the legality of the ballot the same as if the ballot
20 had been voted in person.

21 (6) (a) The board of absentee ballot canvassers shall review each certificate
22 envelope to determine whether any absentee ballot is cast by an elector whose name
23 appears on the poll list as ineligible to vote at the election, including ineligibility to
24 vote by reason of a felony conviction. If the board of absentee ballot canvassers
25 receives an absentee ballot that has been cast by an elector whose name appears on

1 the poll list as ineligible to vote, the inspectors shall challenge the ballot in the same
2 manner as provided for inspectors making challenges under s. 6.92 and shall treat
3 the ballot in the manner as provided for treatment of challenged ballots by inspectors
4 under s. 6.95.

5 (b) Any elector may challenge for cause any absentee ballot ~~other than a ballot~~
6 ~~that was cast in person under s. 6.86 (1) (a) 2. or under s. 6.873.~~ For the purpose of
7 deciding upon ballots that are challenged for any reason, the board of absentee ballot
8 canvassers may call before it any person whose absentee ballot is challenged if the
9 person is available to be called. If the person challenged refuses to answer fully any
10 relevant questions put to him or her by the board of absentee ballot canvassers under
11 s. 6.92, the board of absentee ballot canvassers shall reject the ~~elector's~~ ^{person's} vote. If the
12 challenge is not withdrawn after the person offering to vote has answered the
13 questions, one of the members of the board of absentee ballot canvassers shall
14 administer to the person the following oath or affirmation: "You do solemnly swear
15 (or affirm) that: you are 18 years of age; you are a citizen of the United States; you
16 are now and for 10 days have been a resident of this ward except under s. 6.02 (2);
17 you have not voted at this election; you have not made any bet or wager or become ^{stats.}
18 directly or indirectly interested in any bet or wager depending upon the result of this
19 election; you are not on any other ground disqualified to vote at this election." If the
20 person challenged refuses to take the oath or affirmation, the person's vote shall be
21 rejected. If the person challenged answers fully all relevant questions put to the
22 elector by the board of absentee ballot canvassers under s. 6.92, takes the oath or
23 affirmation, and fulfills the applicable registration requirements, and if the answers
24 to the questions given by the person indicate that the person meets the voting
25 qualification requirements, the person's vote shall be received.

(7) The board of absentee ballot canvassers shall maintain tally sheets on forms provided by the municipal clerk, which shall state the total number of votes cast for each office and for each individual receiving votes for that office, whether or not the individual's name appears on the ballot, and shall state the vote for and against each proposition voted on. Upon completion of the canvass of the absentee ballots, the board of absentee ballot canvassers shall immediately complete statements in duplicate. The statements shall state the excess, if any, by which the number of ballots exceeds the number of electors voting as shown by the poll list used by the board of absentee ballot canvassers under this section and shall state the poll list number of the last elector as shown by the poll list. Each member of the board of absentee ballot canvassers shall then certify to the correctness of the statements and tally sheets and sign their names. All other election officials assisting with the tally shall also certify to the correctness of the tally sheets. When the tally is complete, the board of absentee ballot canvassers shall publicly announce the results from the statements and the records of the count are open to public inspection and copying under s. 19.35 (1).

(8) The board of absentee ballot canvassers shall make full and accurate return of the votes cast for each candidate and proposition on the tally sheet forms. Each tally sheet shall record the returns for each office or referendum by ward, unless combined returns are authorized in accordance with s. 5.15 (6) (b), in which case the tally sheet shall record the returns for each group of combined wards. After recording the votes, the board of absentee ballot canvassers shall seal in a carrier envelope outside the ballot bag or container one inspector's statement under sub. (4) (d), one tally sheet, and one poll list for delivery to the county clerk, unless the election relates only to municipal or school district offices or referenda. The board

1 of absentee ballot canvassers shall also similarly seal one statement, one tally sheet,
2 and one poll list for delivery to the municipal clerk.

3 (9) The governing body of any municipality that has provided by ordinance
4 enacted under sub. (1) for the canvassing of absentee ballots at all elections held in
5 the municipality under this section may by similar action rescind that decision.
6 Thereafter, the absentee ballots at all elections held in the municipality shall be
7 canvassed as provided in s. 6.88.

8 **SECTION 136.** 7.53 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 7.53 (1) MUNICIPALITIES WITH ONE POLLING PLACE. Where the municipality
10 constitutes one ward or combines all wards to utilize a single polling place under s.
11 5.15 (6) (b), the canvass of the votes cast at the polling place shall be conducted
12 publicly under s. 7.51 and the inspectors, other than any inspector appointed under
13 s. 7.30 (1) (b), shall act as the municipal board of canvassers. In municipalities where
14 absentee ballots are canvassed under s. 7.52, after the canvass of the absentee ballots
15 is completed under s. 7.52, the board of absentee ballot canvassers shall reconcile the
16 poll list of the electors who vote by absentee ballot with the corresponding poll list
17 of the electors who vote in person to ensure that no elector is allowed to cast more
18 than one ballot. If an elector who votes in person has submitted an absentee ballot,
19 the absentee ballot is void. Upon completion of the canvass under this section and
20 any canvass that is conducted under s. 7.52 and ascertainment of the results by the
21 inspectors or, in municipalities where absentee ballots are canvassed under s. 7.52,
22 by the inspectors and the board of absentee ballot canvassers, the municipal clerk
23 shall publicly read to the inspectors or the board of absentee ballot canvassers the
24 names of the persons voted for and the number of votes for each person for each
25 municipal office, the names of the persons declared by the inspectors or board of

1 absentee ballot canvassers to have won nomination or election to each municipal
2 office, and the number of votes cast for and against each municipal referendum
3 question.

4 **SECTION 137.** 7.53 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 7.53 (2) (a) 1. Except as provided in par. (c), the municipal board of canvassers
6 for municipal elections in each municipality utilizing more than one polling place
7 shall be composed of the municipal clerk and 2 other qualified electors of the
8 municipality appointed by the clerk. The members of the board of canvassers shall
9 serve for 2-year terms commencing on January 1 of each odd-numbered year, except
10 that any member who is appointed to fill a permanent vacancy shall serve for the
11 unexpired term of the original appointee.

12 2. If the municipal clerk's office is vacant, or if the clerk cannot perform his or
13 her duties ~~or if the clerk is a candidate at an election being canvassed~~, the mayor,
14 president or board chairperson of the municipality shall designate another qualified
15 elector of the municipality to serve in lieu of the clerk for that election.

16 4. If any other member of the board of canvassers is a candidate at the election
17 being canvassed, the clerk shall appoint another qualified elector of the municipality
18 to temporarily fill the vacancy.

19 **SECTION 138.** 7.53 (2) (a) 3. of the statutes is created to read:

20 7.53 (2) (a) 3. If the clerk is a candidate at an election being canvassed, the clerk
21 may perform his or her duties on the board of canvassers only if the clerk does not
22 have an opponent whose name appears on the ballot, or in the case of a recount, if
23 the office the clerk is seeking is not a subject of the recount. If the clerk is a candidate
24 at the election being canvassed and has an opponent whose name appears on the
25 ballot or if the office the clerk is seeking is a subject of a recount, the mayor, president

1 of board chairperson of the municipality shall designate another qualified elector of
2 the municipality to serve in lieu of the elector for that election.

3 **SECTION 139.** 7.53 (2) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 7.53 (2) (d) The municipal board of canvassers shall publicly canvass the
5 returns of every ~~municipal~~ election. The canvass shall begin within 24 hours after
6 the polls close. After any canvass of the absentee ballots is completed under s. 7.52,
7 the board of canvassers shall reconcile the poll list of the electors who vote by
8 absentee ballot with the corresponding poll list of the electors who vote in person to
9 ensure that no elector is allowed to cast more than one ballot. If an elector who votes

10 in person has submitted an absentee ballot, the absentee ballot is void. At the spring
11 election, the board of canvassers shall publicly declare the results on or before the ^{score}
12 2nd Tuesday in April. The board of canvassers shall prepare a statement showing ^{period}
13 the results of each election for any municipal office and each municipal referendum.
14 After each primary for municipal offices, the board of canvassers shall prepare a
15 statement certifying the names of those persons who have won nomination to office.
16 After each other election for a municipal office and each municipal referendum, the
17 board of canvassers shall prepare a determination showing the names of the persons
18 who are elected to each municipal office and the results of each municipal
19 referendum. The board of canvassers shall file each statement and determination
20 in the office of the municipal clerk or board of election commissioners.

21 **SECTION 140.** 7.53 (2m) of the statutes is created to read:

22 7.53 (2m) BOARD OF ABSENTEE BALLOT CANVASSERS. (a) If a municipality elects
23 to count absentee ballots in the manner provided for in s. 7.52, the municipality shall
24 establish a board of absentee ballot canvassers as provided in par. (b).

(b) Except as provided in par. (c), the municipal board of absentee ballot canvassers shall be composed of the municipal clerk, or a qualified elector of the municipality designated by the clerk, and 2 other qualified electors of the municipality appointed by the clerk. The members of the absentee ballot board of canvassers shall serve for 2-year terms commencing on January 1 of each odd-numbered year, except that any member who is appointed to fill a permanent vacancy shall serve for the unexpired term of the original appointee. If the municipal clerk's office is vacant or if the clerk and the clerk's designee cannot perform his or her duties, the mayor, president⁵ or board chairperson of the municipality shall designate another qualified elector of the municipality to serve in lieu of the clerk for that election. If the clerk is a candidate at an election being canvassed, the clerk or the clerk's designee may perform the clerk's duties on the board of absentee ballot canvassers only if the clerk does not have an opponent whose name appears on the ballot. If the clerk is a candidate at the election being canvassed by the board of absentee ballot canvassers and has an opponent whose name appears on the ballot, the mayor, president, or board chairperson of the municipality shall designate another qualified elector of the municipality to serve in lieu of the clerk and his or her designee for that election. If any other member of the board of absentee ballot canvassers is a candidate at the election being canvassed, the clerk shall appoint another qualified elector of the municipality to temporarily fill the vacancy.

(c) Nothing in this subsection precludes a municipal clerk from appointing individuals to the board of absentee ballot canvassers who are simultaneously serving on any other board of canvassers.

SECTION 141. 7.60 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

1 7.60 (2) COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS. The county clerk and 2 qualified electors
2 of the county appointed by the clerk constitute the county board of canvassers. The
3 members of the board of canvassers shall serve for 2-year terms commencing on
4 January 1 of each odd-numbered year, except that any member who is appointed to
5 fill a permanent vacancy shall serve for the unexpired term of the original appointee.
6 One member of the board of canvassers shall belong to a political party other than
7 the clerk's. The county clerk shall designate a deputy clerk who shall perform the
8 clerk's duties as a member of the board of canvassers in the event that the county
9 clerk's office is vacant, or the clerk cannot perform his or her duties, or the clerk is
10 a candidate at an election being canvassed. If the county clerk and designated
11 deputy clerk are both unable to perform their duties, the county executive or, if there
12 is no county executive, the chairperson of the county board of supervisors shall
13 designate another qualified elector of the county to perform the clerk's duties. If a
14 member other than the clerk cannot perform his or her duties, the clerk shall appoint
15 another member to serve. No Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, no
16 person may serve on the county board of canvassers if the person is a candidate for
17 an office to be canvassed by that board. If the clerk is a candidate at an election being
18 canvassed, the clerk may perform his or her duties on the board only if the clerk has
19 no opponent whose name appears on the ballot, or, in the case of a recount, if the office
20 the clerk is seeking is not a subject of the recount. If lists of candidates for the county
21 board of canvassers are submitted to the county clerk by political party county
22 committees, the lists shall consist of at least 3 names and the clerk shall choose the
23 board members from the lists. Where there is a county board of election
24 commissioners, it shall serve as the board of canvassers. If the county board of
25 election commissioners serves as the board of canvassers, the executive director of

1 the county board of election commissioners shall serve as a member of the board of
2 canvassers to fill a temporary vacancy on that board.

3 **SECTION 142.** 7.60 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 7.60 (3) CANVASSING. Not later than 9 a.m. on the Thursday after each election
5 or, in municipalities where absentee ballots are canvassed under s. 7.52, not later
6 than 9 a.m. on the Friday after each election the county board of canvassers shall
7 open and publicly examine the returns. If returns have not been received from any
8 election district or ward in the county, they shall dispatch a messenger and the
9 person having them shall deliver the returns to the messenger. If, on examination,
10 any of the returns received are so informal or defective that the board cannot
11 intelligently canvass them, they shall dispatch a messenger to deliver the returns
12 back to the municipal board of canvassers with written specifications of the
13 informalities or defects and command them to immediately complete the returns or
14 remedy the defects in the manner required and deliver them to the messenger. Every
15 messenger shall safely keep all returns, show them to no one but the municipal clerk
16 and board of canvassers and deliver them to the county clerk with all possible
17 dispatch. To acquire the necessary full returns and remedy any informalities or
18 defects the county board of canvassers may adjourn not longer than one day at a time
19 nor more than 2 days in all.

20 **SECTION 143.** 8.10 (3) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 8.10 (3) (intro.) The certification of a qualified elector circulator under s. 8.15
22 (4) (a) shall be appended to each nomination paper. The number of required
23 signatures on nomination papers filed under this section is as follows:

24 **SECTION 144.** 8.15 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

1 8.15 (4) (a) The certification of a qualified elector circulator stating his or her
2 residence with street and number, if any, shall appear at the bottom of each
3 nomination paper, stating he or she personally circulated the nomination paper and
4 personally obtained each of the signatures; he or she knows they are electors of the
5 ward, aldermanic district, municipality or county, as the nomination papers require;
6 he or she knows they signed the paper with full knowledge of its content; he or she
7 knows their respective residences given; he or she knows each signer signed on the
8 date stated opposite his or her name; and, that he or she, the circulator, ~~resides~~
9 ~~within the district which the candidate named therein will represent, if elected~~ is a
10 qualified elector of this state, or if not a qualified elector of this state, is a U.S. citizen
11 age 18 or older who, if he or she were a resident of this state, would not be disqualified
12 from voting under s. 6.03, Wis. stats.; that he or she intends to support the candidate;
13 and that he or she is aware that falsifying the certification is punishable under s.
14 12.13 (3) (a), Wis. stats. The circulator shall indicate the date that he or she makes
15 the certification next to his or her signature. The certification may be made by the
16 candidate or any qualified elector circulator.

17 **SECTION 145.** 8.20 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 8.20 (3) The certification of ~~an elector~~ a qualified circulator under s. 8.15 (4)
19 (a) shall be appended to each nomination paper.

20 **SECTION 146.** 8.37 of the statutes is amended to read:

21 **8.37 Filing of referenda petitions or questions.** Unless otherwise required
22 by law, all proposed constitutional amendments and any other measure or question
23 that is to be submitted to a vote of the people, or any petitions requesting that a
24 measure or question be submitted to a vote of the people, if applicable, shall be filed
25 with the official or agency responsible for preparing the ballots for the election no

1 later than 42 days prior to the election at which the amendment, measure or question
2 will appear on the ballot. The school district clerk shall file a copy of any such
3 measure or question that is placed on the ballot by a school district with the clerk of
4 each county having territory within the school district no later than 42 days prior to
5 the election at which such measure or question will appear on the ballot.

6 **SECTION 147.** 8.40 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 8.40 (2) The certification of a qualified elector circulator stating his or her
8 residence with street and number, if any, shall appear at the bottom of each separate
9 sheet of each petition specified in sub. (1), stating that he or she personally circulated
10 the petition and personally obtained each of the signatures; that the circulator knows
11 that they are electors of the jurisdiction or district in which the petition is circulated;
12 that the circulator knows that they signed the paper with full knowledge of its
13 content; that the circulator knows their respective residences given; that the
14 circulator knows that each signer signed on the date stated opposite his or her name;
15 that the circulator ~~resides within the jurisdiction or district in which the petition is~~
16 circulated is a qualified elector of this state, or if not a qualified elector of this state,
17 that the circulator is a U.S. citizen age 18 or older who, if he or she were a resident
18 of this state, would not be disqualified from voting under s. 6.03, Wis. stats.; and that
19 the circulator is aware that falsifying the certification is punishable under s. 12.13
20 (3) (a). The circulator shall indicate the date that he or she makes the certification
21 next to his or her signature.

22 **SECTION 148.** 9.01 (1) (ag) 1., 1m. and 2. of the statutes are amended to read:

23 9.01 (1) (ag) 1. If the difference between the votes cast for the leading candidate
24 and those cast for the petitioner or the difference between the affirmative and
25 negative votes cast upon any referendum question is less than 10 if 1,000 or less votes

1 are cast or not more than 0.5% of the total votes cast for the office or on the question
2 if more than 1,000 votes are cast prior to issuance of any amended return under s.
3 6.22 (5m) (f), the petitioner is not required to pay a fee.

4 1m. If the difference between the votes cast for the leading candidate and those
5 cast for the petitioner or the difference between the affirmative and negative votes
6 cast upon any referendum question is at least 10 if 1,000 or less votes are cast or is
7 more than 0.5% but not more than 2% if more than 1,000 votes are cast prior to
8 issuance of any amended return under s. 6.22 (5m) (f), the petitioner shall pay a fee
9 of \$5 for each ward for which the petition requests a ballot recount, or \$5 for each
10 municipality for which the petition requests a recount where no wards exist.

11 2. If the difference between the votes cast for the leading candidate and those
12 cast for the petitioner or the difference between the affirmative and negative votes
13 cast upon any referendum question is more than 2% if more than 1,000 votes are cast
14 prior to issuance of any amended return under s. 6.22 (5m) (f), the petitioner shall
15 pay a fee equal to the actual cost of performing the recount in each ward for which
16 the petition requests a recount, or in each municipality for which the petition request
17 a recount where no wards exist.

18 **SECTION 149.** 9.01 (1) (ag) 2m. of the statutes is created to read:

19 9.01 (1) (ag) 2m. For purposes of subds. 1m. and 2., the number of votes cast
20 at an election excludes any votes that may be eligible to be counted under s. 6.22 (5m)
21 (a).

22 **SECTION 150.** 9.01 (1) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 9.01 (1) (b) (intro.) The Except as provided in this paragraph, the proper board
24 of canvassers shall reconvene no earlier than 9 a.m. on the day following delivery of
25 notice to all candidates under sub. (2) and no later than 9 a.m. on the day following

1 the last day for filing of a petition and proceed to recount the ballots in the wards or
2 municipalities specified and to review the allegations of fact contained in the petition
3 or petitions. If s. 6.22 (5m) (dm) applies, the board of canvassers shall not proceed
4 with the recount until 9 a.m. on the day following the last day for filing of a petition
5 and, if s. 6.22 (5m) (e) applies, shall not proceed with the recount until it complies
6 with s. 6.22 (5m) (f). The recount shall proceed for each ward or municipality as
7 follows:

8 **SECTION 151.** 9.01 (10) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 9.01 (10) STANDARD FORMS AND METHODS. The elections board shall prescribe
10 standard forms and procedures for the making of recounts under this section. The
11 procedures prescribed by the elections board shall require the boards of canvassers
12 in recounts involving more than one board of canvassers to consult with the elections
13 board staff prior to beginning any recount in order to ensure that uniform procedures
14 are used, to the extent practicable, in such recounts.

15 **SECTION 152.** 9.10 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 9.10 (2) (b) A recall petition for requesting the recall of a city, village, town or
17 school district ~~office~~ officer shall contain a statement of ~~a reason for the recall which~~
18 ~~is related to the official responsibilities of the official for whom removal is sought~~
19 each cause for the recall and the grounds that constitute each cause. In this
20 paragraph, "cause" means official misconduct or malfeasance in office.

21 **SECTION 153.** 9.10 (2) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 9.10 (2) (d) No petition may be offered for filing for the recall of an officer unless
23 the petitioner first files a registration statement under s. 11.05 (1) or (2) with the
24 filing officer with whom the petition is filed. The petitioner shall append to the
25 registration a statement indicating his or her intent to circulate a recall petition, the

1 name of the officer for whom recall is sought and, in the case of a petition for the recall
2 of a city, village, town or school district officer, a statement of ~~a reason for the recall~~
3 ~~which is related to the official responsibilities of the official for whom removal is~~
4 ~~sought~~ each cause, as defined in par. (b), for the recall and the grounds that constitute
5 each cause. No petitioner may circulate a petition for the recall of an officer prior to
6 completing registration. The last date that a petition for the recall of a state,
7 congressional, legislative, judicial or county officer may be offered for filing is 5 p.m.
8 on the 60th day commencing after registration. The last date that a petition for the
9 recall of a city, village, town or school district officer may be offered for filing is 5 p.m.
10 on the 30th day commencing after registration. After the recall petition has been
11 offered for filing, no name may be added or removed. No signature may be counted
12 unless the date of the signature is within the period provided in this paragraph.

13 **SECTION 154.** 9.10 (2) (em) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

14 9.10 (2) (em) 2. ~~The residency of the circulator cannot be determined by the~~
15 ~~information given on the petition~~ is not a qualified circulator.

16 **SECTION 155.** 9.10 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 9.10 (4) (a) Within 10 days after a petition for the recall of a city, village, town,
18 or school district ~~official~~, officer is offered for filing, the officer against whom the
19 petition is filed may file a written challenge with the municipal clerk or board of
20 election commissioners or school district clerk with whom it is filed, specifying any
21 alleged insufficiency. If a challenge is filed, the petitioner may file a written rebuttal
22 to the challenge with the clerk or board of election commissioners within 5 days after
23 the challenge is filed. If a rebuttal is filed, the officer against whom the petition is
24 filed may file a reply to any new matter raised in the rebuttal within 2 days after the
25 rebuttal is filed. Within 14 days after the expiration of the time allowed for filing a

1 reply to a rebuttal, the clerk or board of election commissioners shall file the
2 certificate or an amended certificate. Within 31 days after the petition is offered for
3 filing, the clerk or board of election commissioners shall determine by careful
4 examination of the face of the petition whether the petition is sufficient and shall so
5 state in a certificate attached to the petition. If the petition is found to be insufficient,
6 the certificate shall state the particulars creating the insufficiency. The petition may
7 be amended to correct any insufficiency within 5 days following the affixing of the
8 original certificate. Within 2 days after the offering of the amended petition for filing,
9 the clerk or board of election commissioners shall again carefully examine the face
10 of the petition to determine sufficiency and shall attach to the petition a certificate
11 stating the findings. Immediately upon finding an original or amended petition
12 sufficient, except in cities over 500,000 population, the municipal clerk or school
13 district clerk shall transmit the petition to the governing body or to the school board.
14 Immediately upon finding an original or amended petition sufficient, in cities over
15 500,000 population, the board of election commissioners shall file the petition in its
16 office.

17 **SECTION 156.** 10.01 (2) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 10.01 (2) (e) Type E—The type E notice shall state the qualifications for
19 absentee voting, the procedures for obtaining an absentee ballot in the case of
20 registered and unregistered voters, and the places and the deadlines for application
21 and return of application, including any alternate site under s. 6.855, and the office
22 hours during which an elector may cast an absentee ballot in the municipal clerk's
23 office or at an alternate site under s. 6.855. The municipal clerk shall publish a type
24 E notice on the 4th Tuesday preceding each spring primary and election, on the 4th
25 Tuesday preceding each September primary and general election, on the 4th Tuesday

1 preceding the primary for each special national, state, county or municipal election
2 if any, on the 4th Tuesday preceding a special county or municipal referendum, and
3 on the 3rd Tuesday preceding each special national, state, county or municipal
4 election to fill an office which is not held concurrently with the spring or general
5 election. The clerk of each special purpose district which calls a special election shall
6 publish a type E notice on the 4th Tuesday preceding the primary for the special
7 election, if any, on the 4th Tuesday preceding a special referendum, and on the 3rd
8 Tuesday preceding a special election for an office which is not held concurrently with
9 the spring or general election except as authorized in s. 8.55 (3).

10 **SECTION 157.** 10.02 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 10.02 (3) (a) Upon entering the polling place and before being permitted to vote,
12 an elector shall state his or her name and address and ~~provide identification if~~
13 ~~required by federal law.~~ If an elector is not registered to vote, an elector may register
14 to vote at the polling place serving his or her residence if the elector provides proof
15 of residence or the elector's registration is verified by another elector of the same
16 ~~ward or election district~~ ^{municipality} where the elector resides. Where ballots are distributed to
17 electors, the initials of 2 inspectors must appear on the ballot. Upon being permitted
18 to vote, the elector shall retire alone to a voting booth or machine and cast his or her
19 ballot, except that an elector who is a parent or guardian may be accompanied by the
20 elector's minor child or minor ward. An election official may inform the elector of the
21 proper manner for casting a vote, but the official may not in any manner advise or
22 indicate a particular voting choice.

23 **SECTION 158.** 12.03 (title) and (1) of the statutes are amended to read:

24 **12.03 (title) Election day campaigning Campaigning restricted.** (1) No
25 election official may engage in electioneering on election day. No municipal clerk or

1 employee of the clerk may engage in electioneering in the clerk's office or at the
2 alternate site under s. 6.855 during the hours that ballots may be cast at those
3 locations.

4 **SECTION 159.** 12.03 (2) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

5 12.03 (2) (a) 1. No person may engage in electioneering during polling hours
6 on election day at a polling place.

7 2. No person may engage in electioneering during the hours that absentee
8 ballots may be cast in the municipal clerk's office or at an alternate site under s.
9 6.855.

10 (b) 1. No person may engage in electioneering during polling hours on any
11 public property on election day within 100 feet of an entrance to a building containing
12 a polling place.

13 2. No person may engage in electioneering during the hours that absentee
14 ballots may be cast on any public property within 100 feet of an entrance to a building
15 containing the municipal clerk's office or an alternate site under s. 6.855.

16 3. No person may engage in electioneering within 100 feet of an entrance to or
17 within a nursing home or qualified retirement home or community-based
18 residential facility while special voting deputies are present at the home or facility.

19 (d) This subsection does not apply to the placement of any material on the
20 bumper of a motor vehicle that is parked or operated at a place and time where
21 electioneering is prohibited under this subsection.

22 **SECTION 160.** 12.04 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

23 12.04 (2) Except as provided in ~~s. ss.~~ ss. 12.03 or 12.035 or as restricted under sub.
24 (4), any individual may place a sign containing a political message upon residential
25 property owned or occupied by that individual during an election campaign period.

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